



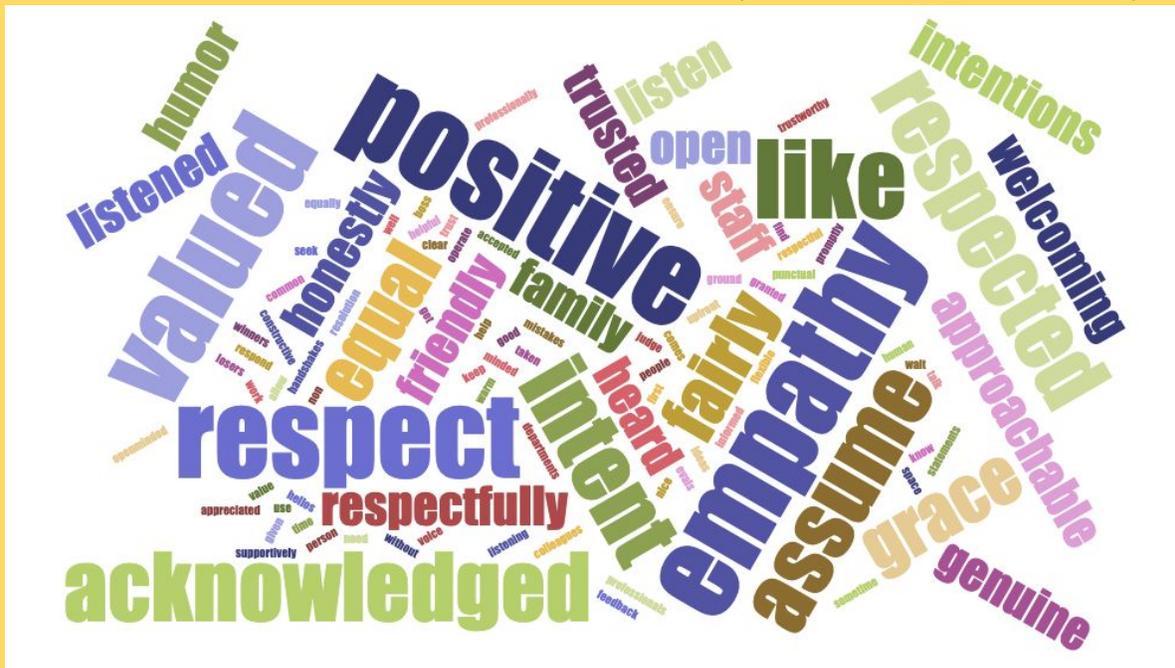
Mears Middle School

# Panther Pride News

Respect, Responsibility, Creativity, and Academic Excellence

Friday, September 4, 2020

## *Social Contracts Promote Empathy and Respect*



*Mears Staff Capturing Kids' Hearts Social Contract, 2020-21.*

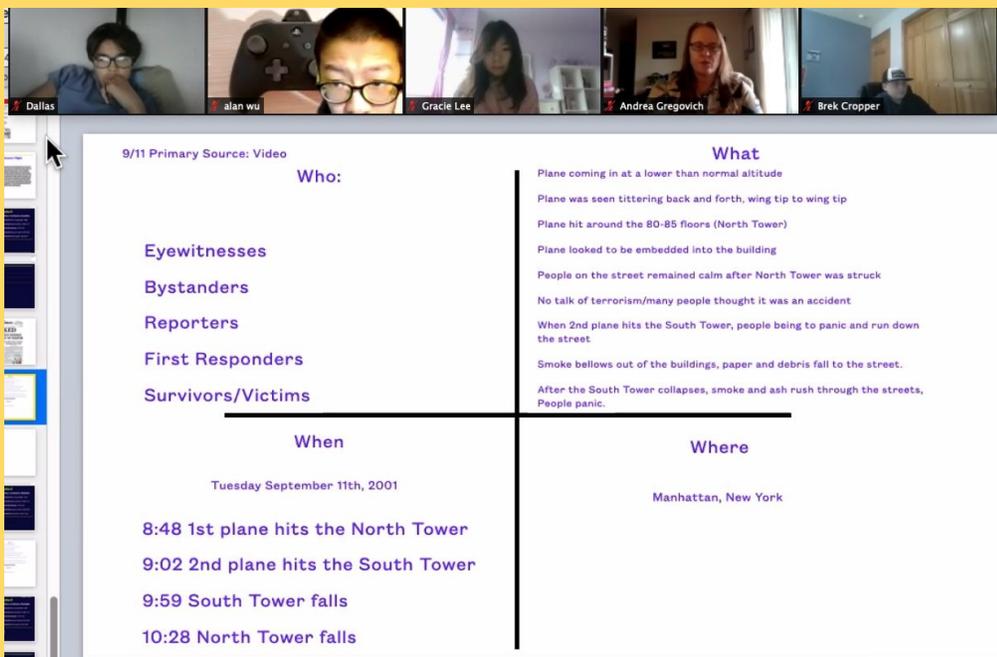
During this last week at Mears, students and staff members have created social contracts. These documents are generated collaboratively in each class and serve as a consistent reminder of how all of us at Mears wish to be treated. The documents, which are now displayed on most teacher's Canvas pages, promote respect, collaboration, helpfulness, and personal responsibility. The creation and use of social contracts is an important practice that is part of the Capturing Kids' Hearts program, which is used throughout ASD. During a staff meeting on Wednesday, Mears teachers and staff created their own social contract, which emphasizes positivity, empathy, and respect. --Eric

## Team Eklutna Hosts Fun, Interactive Student Gathering



Teachers and 7th grade students on Team Eklutna joined together this last Wednesday for the first team gathering of the year. Approximately 50 students joined with their teachers for a series of community-building activities that were a lot of fun and generated lots of smiles and laughter.

## Students Use Eyewitness Accounts to Learn History



Students in Mears 8th grade social studies classes are engaged in the study of the 9/11 Terror Attacks. Using first-hand accounts of those who witnessed the event, students are learning how history is written.

# Important Updates:

## Final Student Item Pick Up

While many families and students picked up their locker items in the fall, we still have a number of bags containing locker and/or gym locker contents. We will have a pick-up opportunity.

Current DHS 9<sup>th</sup> Graders (8<sup>th</sup> last year):

Last Name A-H: Tuesday, 9/8, 8:00 AM-2:30 PM

Last Name I-R: Wednesday, 9/9, 8:00 AM-2:30 PM

Last Name S-Z: Thursday, 9/10, 8:00 AM-2:30 PM

All Students: Friday, 9/11, 8:00 AM-2:30 PM

Note: Although we're allowing any families that missed their assigned day to pick up on 9/3 and 9/11, we encourage families to pick up their items on the designated day.

### The process:

- Walk up to the folding table outside of the north-east entrance (parking-lot side of the building);
- State your student's first and last name, and Mr. Fischer will retrieve your student's bag.
- We request that you wear a mask and maintain social distancing during this process.

Any items not retrieved will be donated/discarded. Please contact me if you have any questions

Thanks,

Mike Scott

Assistant Principal, Mears

[scott\\_michael@asdk12.org](mailto:scott_michael@asdk12.org)

## Need Assistance?



[Mears Counseling Page](#)

[Counselor Help Ticket Link](#)

**CRYSTA SVENDSEN**

**Teams Surprise & Muir**

**Email Mrs. Svendsen at [Svendsen\\_Crysta@asdk12.org](mailto:Svendsen_Crysta@asdk12.org)**

**907-742-6426**

**BRENT HAUGEN**

**Teams Eklutna & Raven**

**Email Mr. Haugen at [Haugen\\_Brent@asdk12.org](mailto:Haugen_Brent@asdk12.org)**

**907-742-6428**

**CAITLIN BURR**

**Teams Blackstone & Echo**

**Email Mrs. Burr at [Burr\\_Caitlin@asdk12.org](mailto:Burr_Caitlin@asdk12.org)**

**907-742-6424**

# Mears Wraps Up iReady



Congratulations to all the students at Mears who finished taking the iReady Diagnostic this week! We appreciate all the hard work and focus our students demonstrated.

If your student missed the assessment, make up opportunities will be provided during the coming week.

Results of the diagnostic assessment in math and reading will be shared with students and families soon, and will be used to help Mears teachers better support students throughout the year.

## Reminder/Daily Schedule

Classes are held on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday

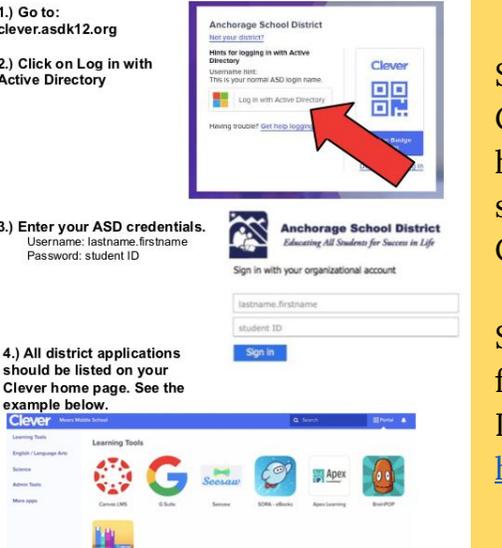
Wednesdays are a non-teaching, eLearning “Utility” Day. Students will use Wednesdays to study and complete assignments, and also to get extra help from teachers and staff. Mears is currently developing a Wednesday Help Schedule, which will be published in next week’s edition of *Panther Pride News*.

- 1st Block -- 8:45 - 10:15am
- 2nd Block -- 10:25 - 11:15
- Nutrition Break -- 11:15 - 11:30
- Block continued -- 11:30 - 12:20 2nd
- 3rd Block -- 12:30 - 2:00
  
- Students must log into their classes using Zoom at the beginning of each session.
- Attendance will be taken.
- Student work will be assessed and graded
- Teachers will offer direct instruction for 30-45 minutes.
- Remainder of class period will be dedicated to work completion, study, discussion, Q & A, small group work, activities...

# Accessing Your Classes and Course Content

**How to Access and Login to Clever**

- 1.) Go to:  
**clever.asdk12.org**
- 2.) Click on **Log in with Active Directory**
- 3.) Enter your ASD credentials.  
Username: lastname.firstname  
Password: student ID
- 4.) All district applications should be listed on your Clever home page. See the example below.



Students are doing a great job getting logged in to Clever to access their zoom class sessions. If, however, you continue to have difficulty, here are simple directions to help your student get to their Clever Home Page.

Students may also go directly to their Canvas Page to find their classes and zoom links. Visit Mears Landing Pad:

<https://www.asdk12.org/domain/4940>

## Canvas Parent Observer

To be an observer in Canvas, a parent/guardian will need a parent Canvas account:

[Click HERE](#) to register or sign in. [Click HERE](#) for detailed instructions for pairing with a student account. Additionally, there is a Canvas parent app for mobile devices. Mobile set up is included in these [INSTRUCTIONS](#).

## Mears READS Book Club

**Everyone is invited to join the Mears' book club!** We will meet, through Zoom, on Wednesdays at 11:30AM.

There is also a Mears READS Google Classroom for announcements and activities. To join the Google Classroom, log in to your ASD Google Drive, click on the Google app waffle, and click on Classroom. (See the screen shot below.) Click the + sign and use the code:  
koudai5

koudai5

The next meeting is on September 9th. Our current book is, Emma by Jane Austen, and we will choose a new title to read on the 9th.

## ASD Technology Distribution

If your student needs a Chromebook device and/or internet connectivity, please send an email to Ms. Ava Goodman, Administrative Assistant, at Mears. You can call her as well. We will submit an application for technology on your behalf.

[goodman\\_ava@asdk12.org](mailto:goodman_ava@asdk12.org)

907-742-6400

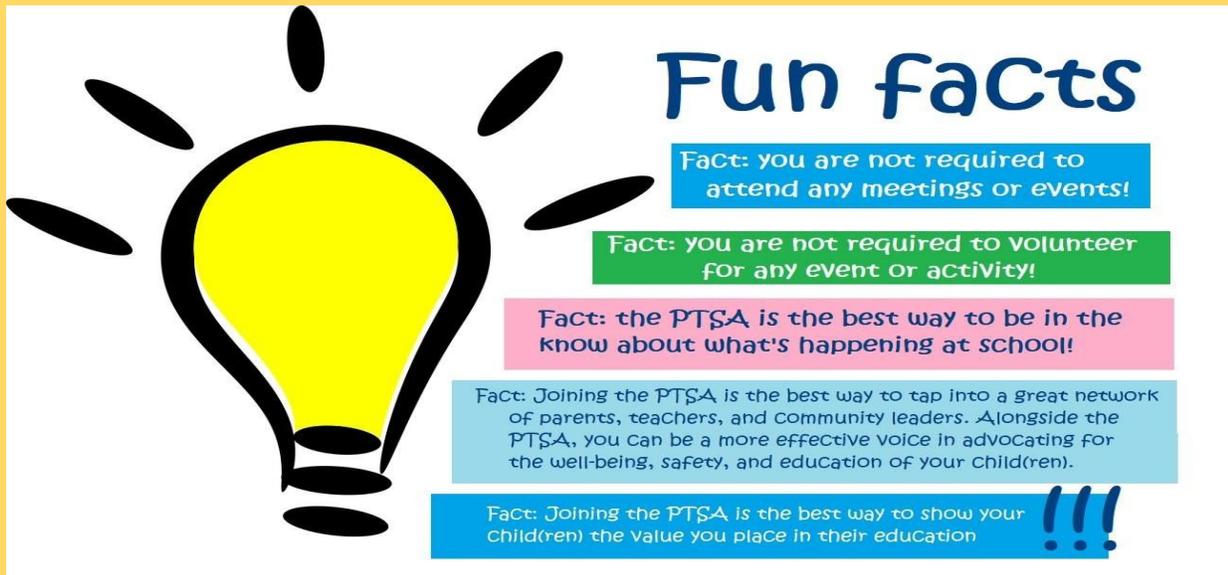
Let's be sure that every student at Mears has the technology they need to fully access the curriculum and to be completely connected to their teachers and classmates!



## PTSA Leadership Wanted

We are still looking for 2020/2021 Board members. If you are interested, please visit our website for position descriptions and interest form. [www.MearsPTSA.com](http://www.MearsPTSA.com)

**Follow us on Facebook**



## Fun facts

**Fact:** you are not required to attend any meetings or events!

**Fact:** you are not required to volunteer for any event or activity!

**Fact:** the PTSA is the best way to be in the know about what's happening at school!

**Fact:** Joining the PTSA is the best way to tap into a great network of parents, teachers, and community leaders. Alongside the PTSA, you can be a more effective voice in advocating for the well-being, safety, and education of your child(ren).

**Fact:** Joining the PTSA is the best way to show your child(ren) the value you place in their education !!!

# What's Happening

## Membership drive now through September 30th. Win a Gift card or Mears Gear

Everyone that becomes a Parent, Teacher, Student, Association Supporting Member by Sept 30 will be entered into a drawing. Membership is \$10

**Become a member by Sept 17 to vote on your budget for the 2020/2021 school year.** Items included in our budget is Panther Grants (these grants would help provide supplies for elective classes and more). Must be a paid member to vote.

### Prize:

Parents/Guardians 1- \$50 Gift Card

Students \$50 Mears Gear of their choice

Teachers/Staff 1- \$50 Gift Card

Sign up at [www.MearsPTSA.com](http://www.MearsPTSA.com)

### September 17 at 7pm. 1st PTSA Meeting of the year Via zoom

Register in advance for this meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/joining/register/tZUldeyqrj0rHNNHprtut-N32g-AbThhAeREr>

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

## September 9,10 and 11 10-2PM

2019/2020 Memory Books and 8th Grade (last year 8th graders) Distribution  
We will also have spirit wear for sale as well

## September 24 7pm PTSA Informational Meeting

This meeting is set up for those on the fence on becoming part of the PTSA Board You can hear from the current leadership and ask questions on how our PTSA works.

Please register for this meeting

Register in advance for this meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZcrceGsqTksGtBxKUTD7-kF8VocRnVWgX7u>

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

### CALL FOR ENTRIES:

# I Matter Because...

2020-2021



Do you enjoy art, music, and dance or have an interest in writing, producing films, and taking photos? Then join us and have fun unleashing your inner artist with PTA Reflections! This year's theme, "I Matter Because..." calls for your own unique interpretation through the arts.

Pick up submission guidelines and an entry form today from [www.MearsPTSA.com](http://www.MearsPTSA.com) and return by **November 10, 2020**. **Submit digital copies of all entries to [MearsMS.PTSA@gmail.com](mailto:MearsMS.PTSA@gmail.com). Save original work for us to collect at a later time**

Divisions: Film Production, Visual Arts, Dance Choreographer, Music Composition, Special Artist, Photography, Cultural Dance, and STEAM.

Student Entry Forms are found at [www.MearsPTSA.com](http://www.MearsPTSA.com)

For inspiration, visit the Reflections virtual art gallery and learn more about prizes and scholarships at [PTA.org/Reflections/Awards](http://PTA.org/Reflections/Awards).

Were on Facebook

School Store is open ONLINE only. (weekly in person sales will be announced in the coming weeks) [www.MearsPTSA.com](http://www.MearsPTSA.com)

We have had to slim down our budget due to schools being closed. We support many events and grant programs at Mears and we will continue to support them this year. Even if they are held virtually. We ask that you continue to support the PTSA. To help, you can donate or purchase spirit wear.

Orders purchased by Wednesday will be ready for pick up on Friday between 8:45 and 2 pm.



**Masks are available online.**

**School Supply Kits are still available.  
\$30-\$65.**

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## **Mears Middle School Mission**

Through teamwork and cooperation, all students become partners in their own educational progress, fostering self-respect, responsibility and integrity.

[Mears Middle School Website](#)